UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/24823
18 November 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 781 (1992) of 9 October 1992, I have the honour to present the following information.

A 14 November communiqué from the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina reported that on 10 November, the aggressor forces, operating from a makeshift airport in Bratunac, used fixed-wing aircraft to attack two villages in the Bratunac region. A few days prior to this attack, helicopters marked with the Red Cross insignia flew reconnaissance missions in the Herzegovina region.

The communiqué also reported that on 12 November, helicopters of the Yugoslav People's Army attacked villages around the town of Bosanski Samac with rockets and machine-guns, while that same day, fixed-wing aircraft flew reconnaissance missions over the towns of Brcko, Srebrenica, and Stolac.

A 13 November communiqué from the Military Command Headquarters of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina reported that on 10 October, Serbian and Montenegrin forces used helicopters in the Gradacac region to transport troops. Later that same day, three Gazelle helicopters fired Maljutka missiles on the city of Gradacac.

The communiqué also reported 65 military flights during the period beginning 11 October and ending 12 November. The following were cited as examples.

On 25, 26 and 31 October, Mi-8 helicopters transported supplies and reinforcement troops to the regions of Jajce, Ilijas, Gradacac and Lukavica.

On 31 October, Gazelle helicopters fired four Maljutka missiles in Stolac. The same day, the villages of Budak and Pale in Srebrenica County were attacked by a fixed-wing aircraft which operated from Bratunac airport. The city of Srebrenica was also attacked by a fixed-wing aircraft, which also operated from Bratunac airport. This airport houses a squadron of attack planes.

Between 1 and 8 November, 30 missions, most by helicopters departing from the Prnjavor and Banja Luka regions, were flown by the aggressor. Four of these helicopters, however, flew from Montenegro.

On 7 and 8 November, fixed-wing aircraft from Bratunac airport fired at least three missiles in the Konjevic region. On the same two days, a plane flew reconnaissance missions over Konjic, Mostar and Capljina. Around 1 p.m., on 9 November, a crop-duster aircraft flew an attack mission over the Srebrenica region. Also on 9 November, transport helicopters were recorded flying over the regions of Bihac and Zenica.

It was noted that transport helicopters employed by the aggressor are usually armed with two machine-guns and four missile launchers. The crop-duster planes usually carry two 100 kg bombs plus a smaller cluster bomb and a machine-gun. All aircraft are flown by military pilots.

Another communiqué from the Military Command Helicopters, dated 15 November, reported that on 13 November, seven Mi-8 helicopters transported troops and ammunition to the towns of Skendor Vakuf, Orasje, and Bosanski Samac while one fixed-wing aircraft flew a reconnaissance mission over the same area.

The communiqué also reported that on 14 November, beginning around 2 p.m., one fixed-wing aircraft flew from Bihac to Udbina on a reconnaissance mission. Also, four Mi-8 helicopters were used to transport ammunition and troops around the towns of Titova Korenica, Kljuc and Prijodor. All flights were tracked by radar.

A communiqué of 14 November from the Military Command of the Tuzla region reported that on 13 November, at 9.40 a.m. and 12.35 p.m., one MiG-21 and one Orao attack plane, accompanied by helicopters, attacked civilian areas in and around Bosanski Samac.

The Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, acting under paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 781 (1992), requests the Security Council "to examine without delay all the information brought to its attention concerning the implementation of the ban on military flights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and, in the case of violations, to consider urgently the further measures necessary to enforce this ban".

May I request your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan MISIC
Ambassador and
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.